Inventor(s): Chris J. Gardner et al. Serial No:

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What is claimed is:

 A thermally-activated fragrance dispenser for perfuming the air in the vicinity of an energized, waste-heat vented, electronic computer monitor, said dispenser comprising:

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a heat-absorbing, thermodynamic base, composed of a thermally conductive material, said base having a base periphery defined by a top plan-view thereof, a base interior surface, and a base exterior bottom surface, said base exterior bottom surface including at least one mounting surface and at least one heat-absorbing base exterior bottom surface;

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a closed peripheral sidewall, said sidewall having a sidewall interior volume, a closed sidewall interior surface and a closed sidewall exterior surface parallel thereto, said sidewall having at least one sidewall perforation therein, piercing said closed sidewall exterior surface and said closed sidewall interior surface, said sidewall having a closed upper peripheral edge defined by a top plan-view thereof and a closed lower peripheral edge parallel and diametric thereto, the geometry of said closed upper peripheral edge and the geometry of said closed lower peripheral edge generally conforming to the geometry of said base periphery, said closed lower peripheral edge of said sidewall and said base periphery of said base each adapted to be fixedly conjoined, for receiving and holding a thermally-activated fragrance material;

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a fragrance dispenser lid, having at least one lid perforation therein, said lid having a lid peripheral edge, the geometry of said lid edge defined by a top plan-view thereof and generally conforming to the geometry of said closed upper peripheral edge of said sidewall, said lid peripheral edge and said upper edge of said sidewall each adapted to be movably conjoined, for receiving and securely containing therein the thermally-activated fragrance perfuming material;

means for increasing the thermal absorption and transfer properties of said base, for promoting thermal activation of the fragrance perfuming material disposed thereon;

means for fixedly conjoining said lower peripheral edge of said sidewall with said base periphery of said base;

means for movably conjoining said lid peripheral edge with said closed upper peripheral edge of said sidewall, for convenient access to the sidewall interior volume of said closed peripheral sidewall for disposing the fragrance perfuming material therein;

means for installing said dispenser over the waste-heat vent of the monitor; and

means for promoting perfuming the air in the vicinity of the energized, waste-heat vented, electronic computer monitor;

said dispenser adaptively installed over the waste-heat vent of the monitor, the monitor having at least one waste-heat vent to expel waste heat generated by the energized electronic portion of the monitor, said dispenser having the thermally-activated fragrance perfuming material disposed therein, the perfuming material in thermal contact with said interior surface of said base, waste heat expelled from the waste-heat vent of the energized monitor absorbed by said heat absorbing base exterior bottom surface, thermally transferred to said interior surface, the waste heat thereupon transferred to the thermally-activated fragrance perfuming material, the thermally-activated perfuming fragrance exiting said dispenser through said at least one sidewall perforation and said at least one lid perforation, for perfuming the air in the vicinity of the energized, waste-heat vented, electronic computer monitor.

2. A thermally-activated fragrance dispenser as recited in claim 1, wherein said means for fixedly conjoining said lower peripheral edge of said sidewall with said base periphery of said base is selected from a group

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consisting of solder, epoxy resin, glue, welding, rivets, screws, and crimp tabs.

- 3. A thermally-activated fragrance dispenser as recited in claim 2, wherein said means for movably conjoining said lid peripheral edge with said upper peripheral edge of said sidewall is selected from a group consisting of hinge, snap-on crimp, threaded screw, and snap fastener.
 - 4. A thermally-activated fragrance dispenser as recited in claim 3, wherein said means for promoting perfuming the air in the vicinity of the energized electronic monitor comprises a plurality of said sidewall perforations in said sidewall and a plurality of said lid perforations in said lid, said plurality of sidewall perforations and said plurality of lid perforations each selected from a group consisting of a grille, perforations expressing a decorative ornamentation, perforations expressing a message, and perforations expressing a name.
 - 5. A thermally-activated fragrance dispenser as recited in claim 4, wherein said means for installing said dispenser over the waste-heat vent of the energized electronic monitor comprises at least one mounting pad affixed

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to said at least one mounting surface of said base, adapted for conjoining said thermally-activated fragrance dispenser with the monitor waste-heat vent, said at least one mounting pad selected from a group consisting of a two-part mounting strip, each part an adhesively-backed, hooks and loops strip, such as Velcro ®; a two-sided adhesive strip; epoxy resin; rivets;

- 6. A thermally-activated fragrance dispenser as recited in claim 5, wherein said means for increasing the thermal absorption and transfer properties of said base comprises said base fabricated from malleable heat-conducting material, crimped in accordion-fold, producing said base exterior bottom surface having said at least one mounting surface and said at least one heat-absorbing base exterior bottom surface having a generally serriform topography for increasing the heat absorbing surface area of said heat-absorbing base exterior bottom surface of said base for promoting thermal activation of the thermally-activated fragrance perfuming material.
- 7. A thermally-activated fragrance disperser as recited in claim 5, wherein said means for increasing the thermal absorption and transfer properties of said base comprises said base fabricated from a block of

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heat-conducting material, said block, upon fabrication, having for said base exterior bottom surface said at least one mounting surface and said at least one heat-absorbing base exterior bottom surface having a generally serriform topography for increasing the heat absorbing surface area of said heat-absorbing base exterior bottom surface of said base, material for said base selected from a group consisting of metal, thermally conducting ceramic, thermally conducting glass, and thermally conducting plastic.

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8. A thermally-activated fragrance dispenser for perfuming the air adjacent an energized, waste-heat vented, electronic computer monitor, said dispenser comprising:

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a heat-absorbing base, composed of a thermally conductive material, said base adapted to be fixedly mounted over the waste-heat vent of the vented electronic computer monitor, said base having a base periphery defined by a top plan-view thereof, a base interior surface, and an base exterior bottom surface, said base exterior bottom surface including at least one mounting surface and at least one heat-absorbing base exterior bottom surface, said heat absorbing surface including means for maximizing heat absorption;

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a closed peripheral sidewall, said sidewall having a sidewall interior volume, a closed sidewall interior surface and a closed sidewall exterior surface parallel thereto, said sidewall having at least one sidewall opening therein, piercing both said closed sidewall exterior surface and said closed sidewall interior surface, said sidewall having a closed upper peripheral edge defined by a top plan-view thereof and a closed lower peripheral edge diametrically opposite said closed upper peripheral edge, said closed upper peripheral edge defining an upper edge plane, said closed lower peripheral edge defining a lower edge plane, the upper edge plane, the lower edge plane, and said closed sidewall interior surface defining the sidewall interior volume, the geometry of the upper peripheral edge plane and the geometry of the lower peripheral edge plane generally conforming to the geometry of said base periphery, said closed lower peripheral edge of said sidewall and said base periphery of said base each adapted to be fixedly conjoined, for receiving and containing a thermally-activated fragrance perfuming material within the sidewall interior volume; and

a fragrance dispenser lid, having at least one lid opening therein, said lid having a lid peripheral edge, said lid edge geometry defined by a top plan-view thereof, said lid peripheral edge adapted to be movably conjoined with said upper edge of said sidewall, for receiving and securely holding the thermally-activated fragrance perfuming material within the sidewall interior volume:

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said dispenser installed over the computer monitor waste-heat vent, said heat absorbing base exterior bottom surface of said base exterior bottom surface proximate thereto, the monitor having at least one waste-heat vent to expel waste heat generated by the energized electronic portion of the monitor, said dispenser having the thermally-activated fragrance perfuming material disposed therein, the perfuming material in thermal contact with said interior surface of said base, waste heat expelled from the waste-heat vent of the energized monitor absorbed by said heat absorbing surface, thermally transferred to said interior surface, the waste heat thereupon transferred to the thermally-activated fragrance perfuming material, the thermally-activated fragrance exiting said dispenser through said at least one sidewall opening and said at least one lid opening, for perfuming the air adjacent the energized, waste-heat vented, electronic computer monitor.

9. A thermally-activated fragrance dispenser as recited in claim 8, wherein said at least one sidewall opening in said sidewall and said at least one lid opening in said lid are adapted to promote perfuming the air adjacent the energized electronic monitor, said at least one sidewall opening in said sidewall and said at least one lid opening in said lid are each selected from a group consisting of a grille, perforations expressing a decorative

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ornamentation, perforations expressing a message, and perforations expressing a name.

- 10. A thermally-activated fragrance dispenser as recited in claim 9, wherein the principal component attendant to fixedly conjoining said lower peripheral edge of said sidewall with said base periphery of said base is selected from a group consisting of solder, epoxy resin, glue, welding material, brazing material, rivets, screws, and crimp tabs.
 - 11. A thermally-activated fragrance dispenser as recited in claim 10, wherein the principal component attendant to movably conjoining said lid peripheral edge with said upper peripheral edge of said sidewall is selected from a group consisting of a hinge, a snap-on crimp, and a snap fastener.
- 12. A thermally-activated fragrance dispenser as recited in claim 11, wherein 20 the principal component attendant to installing said dispenser over the waste-heat vent of the energized electronic monitor comprises at least one mounting pad affixed to said at least one mounting surface of said base, adapted for conjoining said thermally-activated fragrance dispenser with

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the monitor waste-heat vent, said at least one mounting pad selected from a group consisting of a two part mounting strip, each part an adhesive-backed hooks and loops strip, such as Velcro ®; a single two-sided adhesive strip; epoxy resin; and glue.

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13. A thermally-activated fragrance disperser as recited in claim 12, wherein said base is fabricated from malleable heat-conducting material, crimped in accordion-fold, producing said base exterior bottom surface having said at least one mounting surface and said heat absorbing base exterior bottom surface having a generally serriform property for increasing the heat absorbing surface area of said base exterior bottom surface of said base for promoting thermal activation of the thermally-activated fragrance perfuming material disposed within said dispenser.

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14. A thermally-activated fragrance dispenser as recited in claim 12, wherein said base is fabricated from a block of heat-conducting material, said fabricated block, having for said base exterior bottom surface said at least one mounting surface and said heat absorbing base exterior bottom surface, upon fabrication, having a generally serriform property for increasing the heat absorbing surface area thereof, material for said base

selected from a group consisting of metal, thermally conducting glass, thermally conducting ceramic, and thermally conducting plastic.

15. A thermally-activated fragrance dispenser for use with an electronic computer monitor, said dispenser comprising:

a thermally conductive base receptacle adapted to support thereon a thermally activated fragrance element, said base adapted to provide an base exterior bottom surface having features thereto for expeditiously absorbing heat and transferring heat to the thermally activated fragrance element, said base further adapted to be supported overlaying the waste-heat vent of the monitor; and

a receptacle lid supported on said base receptacle and cooperating with said base receptacle to confine therein the thermally activated fragrance element, said base receptacle and said receptacle lid each having at least one perforation therethrough for perfuming the air immediately surrounding the electronic computer monitor during energizing thereof.

16. A thermally-activated fragrance dispenser as recited in claim 15, wherein a plurality of said at least one perforation form a pattern, the pattern

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selected from a group consisting of a grille, perforations expressing a decorative ornamentation, perforations expressing a message, and perforations expressing a name.

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17. A thermally-activated fragrance dispenser as recited in claim 16, wherein said base exterior bottom surface is non-planar for maximizing the heat absorbing characteristics thereof.

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18. A thermally-activated fragrance dispenser as recited in claim 17, wherein said base exterior bottom surface is fabricated from malleable heat-conducting material, crimped in accordion-fold, producing said base exterior bottom surface having a generally serriform property for increasing the heat absorbing surface area of said base exterior bottom surface of said base for promoting thermal activation of the thermally-activated fragrance perfuming element.

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19. A thermally-activated fragrance dispenser as recited in claim 17, wherein said base exterior bottom surface is fabricated from a block of heat-conducting material, said block, upon fabrication, having a generally serriform property for increasing the heat absorbing surface area of said

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base exterior bottom surface, heat-conducting material thereof selected from a group consisting of metal, thermally conductive ceramic, thermally conductive glass, and thermally conductive plastic.